

REMARKS

Claims 1-4 have been canceled. Claims 5 and 11 are amended to provide consistent language for identifying the switching mechanism and thereby remove the objection made under 35 USC Section 112.

Claims 5-11 were previously allowed. The office action of February 8, 2005 (hereinafter, OA 2/8/05) withdrew the allowance and rejected all claims under 365 USC 103 based upon a combination of US 6118439 (Ho) and US 6717561 (Pfeiffer et al.). The rejection found that Ho has “an addressing structure having rows and columns of conductors arranged so that when a column and a row overlap, they define a selectable pixel or segment.” Page 2, OA 2/8/05. The rejection further found that Pfeiffer disclosed that “cholesteric displays usually involve two or more voltage levels” and cited to Pfeiffer at col. 1, lines 32-42. Page 3, OA 2/8/05.

The rejection is based on clearly erroneous findings and should be withdrawn. Ho does not show or suggest a structure with rows and columns. Ho has no row and column addressing structure. Instead, Ho has a different, eight-segment display. Ho has no segments that overlap. Moreover, Ho has no row and column addressing structure as required by the claims. As such, the Ho reference fails to show or suggest multiple elements of the claimed invention.

The text of the Ho patent appearing on the USPTO web site was key word searched to look for “row” or “column” or “pixel.” The search yielded no instances of any of those words. Ho has “segments” but each is independent of the other and none are defined at the overlap of rows and columns.

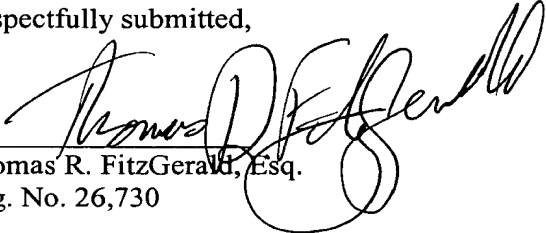
There is no row and column addressing mechanism in Ho and no art of record applied to the claims shows or suggests adapting the independent segment display of Ho to a row and column display. In the eight segment display of Ho, each segment is individually actuated to be either on or off, visible or not.

Pfeiffer at the cited location (col. 1, lines 32-42) makes no mention of “two or more voltage levels.” Pfeiffer is silent about voltage levels in the display. It only refers to binary and multitone displays, but not to the voltage levels required to generate the displays.

The Ho reference refers to voltage dividers, but they are ubiquitous elements in electronic circuits. Ho fails to show or suggest applying voltage dividers to a row and column display systems as set forth in claims 5 and 11.

In summary, the primary reference Ho fails to show the row and columns of the claims, fails to show the row and column addressing structure of the claims, and fails to show the overlapping rows and columns that form selectable pixels/segments. The rejection is erroneous and should be withdrawn and this application passed to issue.

Respectfully submitted,



Thomas R. FitzGerald, Esq.
Reg. No. 26,730

Law Office of Thomas R. FitzGerald
16 East Main Street, Suite 210
Rochester, New York 14614
Telephone (585) 454-2250
Fax (585) 454-6364